

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

### **In the Claims**

1. (Currently Amended) A shelf unit for use in a rack for communication equipment, the shelf unit comprises:

a front body, including a pair of side panels having front and rear ends and defining a space for containing front PCBs, and connecting members mounted adjacent to the rear ends of the side panels and protruding outward from the side panels;

a back board, ~~to which~~ including a front face and a rear face, wherein the front face is configured to connect to the front PCBs ~~are connected, the back board being~~ detachably mounted to the rear ends of the side panels of the front body; and

a rear body including a pair of side panels having front and rear ends and defining a space for containing rear PCBs ~~connected to~~ , wherein the rear face of the back board is configured to connect to the rear PCBs, a pair of connecting plates extending from the front ends of the side panels and having a distance therebetween so that the connecting plates are in close contact with outer surfaces of the side panels of the front body, and slots provided at the connecting plates into which the respective connecting members are fitted.

2. (Original) The shelf unit of claim 1, wherein each of the slots has a substantially L-shaped configuration, which includes a horizontal portion extending horizontally from the front end of the connecting plate and a vertical portion extending vertically upward from the end of the horizontal portion.

3. (Currently Amended) The shelf unit of claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ each of the connecting members is implemented as a screw, which is fastened into the side panels of the front body by the predetermined depth.
4. (New) The shelf unit of claim 1, wherein the front body includes a PCB guide.
5. (New) The shelf unit of claim 1, wherein the rear body includes a PCB guide.
6. (New) The shelf unit of claim 1, wherein the shelf unit is mounted in a rack.
7. (New) A shelf unit comprising:
  - a front body having a front end, a rear end, and a connecting member, wherein the front body is configured for mounting a first set of PCBs;
  - a rear body having a front end, a rear end, and a connecting plate, wherein the rear body is configured for mounting a second set of PCBs; and
  - a back board having a front face and a rear face, wherein when the back board is fixed to the rear end of the front body, the front face of the back board configured to connect to the first set of PCBs, the rear face of the back board configured to connect to the second set of PCBs; and,
  - wherein the connecting member connects to the connecting plate to combine the front body with the rear body.
8. (New) The shelf unit of claim 7, wherein the back board is fixed to the front body.
9. (New) The shelf unit of claim 7, wherein a width dimension of the front body and the rear body are the same.

10. (New) The shelf unit of claim 7, wherein the connecting plate fits over the outside of the front body and engages the connecting members.

11. (New) A method comprising:

affixing a back board having a front face and a rear face to a front body having a front end, a rear end, and a connecting member, wherein the affixing is performed on the rear end of the front body;

fitting the connecting member to a connecting plate on a rear body having a front end and a rear end, wherein the front body and the rear body are combined via the connecting member and the connecting plate;

mounting a first PCB to the front body;

connecting the first PCB to the front face of the back board;

mounting a second PCB to the rear body; and

connecting the second PCB to the rear face of the back board.

12. (New) The method of claim 11 further including pulling apart the connecting plate and the connecting member to gain access to the back board.

13. (New) The method of claim 11 further including pulling apart the connecting plate and the connecting member to replace the back board.

14. (New) The method of claim 11 further including detaching the rear body from the front body and unfixing the back board from the front body.